

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1-43, 45-97, and 99-111 are pending, in which claims 112 and 113 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 1, 16, 36, 58, 72 and 91 are currently amended. These changes are not believed to raise new issues requiring further consideration and/or search as they merely incorporate indicated allowable subject matter, and it is therefore respectfully requested that the present amendment be entered under 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

The final Office Action mailed January 24, 2006 rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 58, 59, 61, 112, and 113 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on *Mendez et al.* (U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0139178) in view of *Birrell et al.* (U.S. 5,805,803), claims 3 and 60 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on *Mendez et al.* and *Birrell et al.* further in view of *Hind et al.* (U.S. 5,987,523), claims 5 and 62 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on *Mendez et al.* and *Birrell et al.* further in view of *Riggins et al.* (U.S. 6,131,116), claims 6, 7, 9, 11-15, 63, 64, and 67-71 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on *Mendez et al.*, *Birrell et al.*, and *Riggins et al.*, further in view of *Radia et al.* (U.S. 5,848,233), claims 8 and 65 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on *Mendez et al.*, *Birrell et al.*, *Riggins et al.*, and *Radia et al.*, further in view of *Chung et al.* (U.S. 6,012,090), claims 10 and 66 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on *Mendez et al.*, *Birrell et al.*, *Riggins et al.*, and *Radia et al.*, further in view of *Montulli* (U.S. 5,774,670) and *Harrison et al.* (U.S. 5,208,908), claims 50-51, 53, 104-105, and 107 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on *Mendez et al.* and *Birrell et al.*, further in view of *Montulli*, and claims 52, 54, 55, 106, 108, and 109 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on *Mendez et al.*, *Birrell et al.*, and *Montulli*, further in view of *Cianfrocca et al.* (U.S. 6,088,796).

Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 16-43, 45-49, 56-57, 72-97, 99-103, 110, and 111 are allowable if rewritten in independent form.


In the interest of advancing prosecution, Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 58. Amended claim 1 now incorporates the allowable features of dependent claim 16, and independent claim 58 has been amended to include the allowable features of dependent claim 72. Additionally, dependent claims 16 and 72 have been recast in independent form.

Therefore, the present application, as amended, overcomes the rejections of record and is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested. If any unresolved issues remain, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney at (703) 425-8508 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date



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